

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SUVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 257391

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, TN,

SUBJECT: TONGA CONSTITUTIONAL CENTENARY

REF: A. WELLINGTON 3194

B. SUVA 1249

1. WHITE HOUSE HAS DESIGNATED AS OTHER REPRESENTATIVE RICHARD E. SPELTS JR., PRESIDENT OF FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA. WIFE DOROTHY T. SPELTS WILL ACCOMPANY AT OWN EXPENSE.

2. COUPLE WILL TRAVEL VIA DENVER AND LOS ANGELES TO CONNECT WITH FLIGHT PAA 811 LEAVING LOS ANGELES SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1 AT 6:40 P.M. ARRIVING NADI MONDAY NOVEMBER 3 AT 4:10 A.M. THEY WILL CONTINUE ON NOVEMBER 3 ON FJ 122 LEAVING NADI 7:10 A.M. ARRIVING SUVA 7:50 A.M.

3. WE HAVE TOLD THEM THEY WILL BE MET AT SUVA AIRPORT, AND THAT EMBASSY SUVA WILL BE INQUIRING ABOUT THEIR GOING ON TO TONGA ABOARD THE HORNE, OR IF THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE BOOKING THEM ON FJ 452 ON THE MORNING OF NOVEMBER 4 AND MAKING SUITABLE SUVA HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS FOR NOVEMBER 3.

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4. SPELTS HAS URGENT NOVEMBER 10 MEETING IN GRAND ISLAND AND HAS BOOKED RETURN RESERVATIONS AS FOLLOWS (FLIGHT NUMBERS UNKNOWN): AIR PACIFIC LEAVES SUVA 6:45 P.M. FRIDAY NOVEMBER 7 ARRIVES NADI 7:25 P.M. OVERNIGHT IN NADI. AIR NEW ZEALAND LEAVES NADI NOVEMBER 8 AT 12:45 P.M. ARRIVES LOS ANGELES NOVEMBER 7 AT 5:35 P.M. WE HAVE TOLD HIM THAT THOUGH WE DO NOT HAVE THE TONGA-SUVA AIRLINE SCHEDULE THIS WILL PROBABLY REQUIRE HIM TO LEAVE TONGA THURSDAY NOVEMBER 6. IF YOU CONSIDER THIS EARLY A DEPARTURE CLEARLY UNACCEPTABLE, PLEASE CABLE ALTERNATIVE PROPOSED SCHEDULE INCORPORATING EARLIEST ACCEPTABLE DEPARTURE AND WE WILL TALK TO SPELTS ABOUT IT. MEANWHILE BOOK APPROPRIATE TONGA-SUVA AIR RESERVATIONS AND SUVA HOTEL RESERVATIONS NOVEMBER 6 IF NEEDED. WE ASSUME HIS NADI NOVEMBER 7 RESERVATION IS BEING HANDLED BY HIS TRAVEL AGENT BUT SUGGEST YOU INQUIRE ABOUT IT WHEN HE REACHES SUVA.

5. SPELTS WILL BRING WITH HIM A PRESENTATION GIFT, A STERLING SILVER REPLICA OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE IN A WOOD MOUNTING. A PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATION IS BEING CLEARED AND WILL BE CABLED TO SUVA FOR SPELTS AND THE AMBASSADOR TO TAKE WITH THEM. FORMAL CREDENTIALS WILL NOT BE FURNISHED. INGERSOLL

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